

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 194  
By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Oakwood Baptist  
Church on its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor those institutions of God whose commitment to the people of the State of Tennessee has set an example of compassion and outreach to which we should all aspire; and

WHEREAS, Oakwood Baptist Church is one such institution, as it has proudly served the people in the Knoxville area for 100 years; and

WHEREAS, originating as a Sunday School Mission of Broadway Baptist Church in 1903, the fledgling church first met in a store building; as its membership grew, the group was organized into a church on May 28, 1905, and assumed the name Oakwood Baptist Church in 1906; and

WHEREAS, under the superb leadership of Oakwood's first pastor, the Reverend J.W. Crowe, Oakwood was able to make significant progress towards erecting its first permanent building, which it did in 1910; and

WHEREAS, having since completed many staggering renovations and expansions, the Oakwood community of faith continues to grow, reflecting the purpose for which it was established in its Articles of Incorporation: “The general welfare of society, not individual profit, is the object of which this Charter is granted”; and

WHEREAS, continuing to make an overwhelmingly positive impact on its community and State, Oakwood has established many different ministries, including youth, public housing, missionary, evangelical, music, and varied social service programs; and

WHEREAS, as the church is often a beacon of peace in war times, Oakwood was helpful in raising the spirits of the community during World War II; and

WHEREAS, paragons of technology and research, the church library and media center have received special citations for being extensive and cutting-edge; and

WHEREAS, many Pastors and missionaries had their roots in Oakwood Baptist Church; Oakwood was the nurturing cocoon in which they sprouted their wings before moving on to further ministry for God; and

WHEREAS, Oakwood Baptist Church has, for 100 years, been a sanctuary, a meeting house, and a bastion of faith and forthright living; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor Oakwood Baptist Church for its commitment to its community and State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Oakwood Baptist Church on reaching the milestone of 100 years, applaud its diligence in fostering upright living in its community, and wish the members nothing but continued success for years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from said copy.